

CLAIMS

1. An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
a substantially flat top face; and  
5 a slanted front face, the bottom side of which  
recedes backward.

2. The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim  
1, further comprising:  
10 a paper discharge tray disposed at a lower portion  
of said slanted front face, said paper discharge tray  
protruding forward.

3. The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim  
15 2, wherein said paper discharge tray is tilttable upward and  
downward.

4. The image forming apparatus as claimed in any  
one of claims 1 through 3, further comprising:  
20 a paper feed tray disposed at a lower portion of  
said slanted front face, said paper feed tray protruding  
forward.

5. The image forming apparatus as claimed in any  
25 one of claims 1 through 4, further comprising:

an operations unit at a portion of said slanted front face, said operations unit protruding forward.

6. The image forming apparatus as claimed in any  
5 one of claims 1 through 5, wherein  
at least a portion of said top face including a front end thereof is formed as an openable top cover, and the bottom side of the front face of the top cover recedes backward.

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7. An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
a substantially flat top face that is visibly divided.

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8. The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 7, further comprising:  
a stripe-shaped dividing element formed on said top face that divides said top face into a front portion and a rear portion.

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9. The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 7, further comprising:  
a step formed on said top face, wherein said step divides said top face into a front portion and a rear portion.

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10. The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim  
9, wherein

the front portion is lower than the rear portion.

5                 11. An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
  
                       a paper feed tray that provides pressure to paper  
stacked therein for feeding the paper;  
  
                       a paper discharge tray for stacking paper on which  
an image is formed, wherein said paper discharge tray is  
10                 tilttable bidirectionally; and  
  
                       a release mechanism that, when said paper discharge  
tray is tilted, releases the pressure provided to the paper  
stacked in said paper feed tray.

15                 12. An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
  
                       a paper feed tray for feeding the paper; and  
  
                       a paper discharge tray for stacking paper on which  
an image is formed, wherein said paper discharge tray is  
tilttable bidirectionally;  
  
20                 a move mechanism that, when said paper discharge  
tray is tilted, moves said paper feed tray in a direction  
opposite to the direction in which the paper is fed.

13. The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim  
25                 11 or 12, wherein said paper discharge tray covers said paper

feed tray as a top cover thereof.

14. The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim  
13, wherein

5                 the opening of said paper feed tray is determined  
depending on an angle at which said paper discharge tray can  
be tilted and a distance up to which said paper feed tray can  
be drawn.

10                 15. The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim  
13 or 14, wherein

                       said paper feed tray has an opening on a front face  
thereof, and has an end fence for blocking the opening.

15                 16. A paper discharge tray in which paper  
discharged from an apparatus body is stacked, comprising:  
                       a slope on which the paper is stacked, a first side  
of said slope being higher than a second side of said slope,  
wherein the first side is in the downstream of a direction in  
20                 which the paper is discharged.

17. A paper discharge tray in which paper is  
discharged from an apparatus body is stacked,  
wherein

25                 side portions of the paper discharge tray in

directions perpendicular to a direction in which the paper is discharged are lower than a middle portion thereof.

18. An image forming apparatus, comprising:

5           an apparatus body that discharges paper on which an image is formed; and

the paper discharge tray as claimed in claim 16 or

17.

10           19. An image forming apparatus, comprising:

an image forming unit for forming an image on  
paper;

a detachable transport cover provided on a rear  
side of the image forming apparatus for covering a mechanism  
15       of said image forming unit; and

a storage unit formed on said detachable transport  
cover for storing miscellaneous objects.

20           20. The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim  
19, wherein

said storage unit and said detachable transport  
cover are formed monolithically or individually.

25           21. The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim  
19 or 20, wherein

an outline of said detachable transport cover is substantially identical to an outline of a portion protruding backward from a side of an apparatus body.

5           22. The image forming apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 1 through 15, and 18 through 21, further comprising:

              a recording head that discharges recording liquid for forming images.

10           23. The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 22, further comprising:

              a sub-tank that supplies the recording liquid to said recording head; and

15           a recording liquid cartridge that supplies the recording liquid to said sub-tank.

24. An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
              a recording head that discharges recording liquid  
20 for forming images;

              a recording liquid cartridge that supplies the recording liquid to said recording head;

              a paper feed tray;  
              a paper discharge tray; and  
25           a cartridge loading unit in which said recording

liquid cartridge is loaded;

wherein

said paper feed tray, said paper discharge tray,  
and said cartridge loading unit are disposed on a front face  
5 of the image forming apparatus.

25. The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim  
24, wherein  
said recording liquid cartridge is loaded to the  
10 image forming apparatus in the same direction in which said  
paper feed tray feeds paper.

26. The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim  
24 or 25, further comprising:  
15 at least one of an operations unit, a connector to  
which an external resource is to be connected, a power switch,  
and another connector to which a power cable is to be  
connected.

20 27. The image forming apparatus as claimed in any  
one of claims 24 through 26, wherein said recording liquid  
cartridge is shaped like a thin box.